

## National Republican.

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WASHINGTON, AUGUST 22, 1879.

LITTLE SPIRITUALITY is a Greenbacker. But he never drinks flat whiskey.

BARKSDALE, the murderer of Captain DIXON, is out on bail. This is the end of it.

BRY HILL practices law during his Congressional recess. He simply practices in law-making when Congress is in session.

THE Narragansett Pier scandal is waxing too old to talk about; almost as ancient, in fact, as that Memphis sleeping-car affair.

It is the New York Herald, not THE NATIONAL REPUBLICAN, which is unhappy over the retirement of General GRANT from the canvass. Old Zach is left—and his name is worth a million of Stalwart men—to disturb the equanimity of the Herald.

SUNSET COX writes from a summer resort where he is ratiocating, that he is located "far aloof from the dull ass's hoof." As this sentiment is supposed to have emanated from SUNSET's alleged brain-pot, it is fair to presume he has been decapitated.

THE Washington correspondent of the Baltimore Sun seems to know more about the affairs of the Republican Congressional Committee than the members themselves do. He says the CASSANAVE debt was in part relieved by payments out of the funds of the committee.

It now appears that DIXON was shot in the back. Not satisfied with this cowardly assassination, his former partisans are now engaged in blackening his character, or attempting to blacken it; for, as he was a leading Mississippi Home Ruler, it was already about as black as it well could be.

FORT PILLOW CHAMBERS says he would rather stamp Mississippi for GRANT than support TILDEN, whom he characterizes as a cool, calculating coward and an "ice-water hypocrite." Yet this same CHAMBERS and his bull-dozing accomplices deluged that State in blood for TILDEN in 1876.

THE EVARTS boom for President has subsided; at any rate, all the candidates for the nomination except that gentleman have made key-note speeches. But it must be remembered that he has this advantage: When he does get to talking he can keep on and on for three or four days, just to catch up with his competitors, you know.

Now the Opposition press is rampaging over an alleged "confession" of Justice MILLER to the effect that TILDEN carried Louisiana. But the bottom falls out of this wonderful tale when the fact is known that its only basis resides in a report of a private conversation by a correspondent of the New York Sun.

THE town of Dennison, in Tuscarawas County, Ohio, last year polled only sixty Republican votes. It now has over one hundred and twenty voters in its Foster Club. There is every prospect that the usual one thousand Democratic majority in Tuscarawas County will be whittled down to five hundred, and that the Republicans will elect one or two of the candidates on their county ticket.

WHEN the Democrats run afoul of our modern civil-service reformers as they did in the CASSANAVE business, they generally come out of the contest considerably ahead. In this case they drove a hard bargain with a lot of stinky, short-sighted reformers, who must have known that they would have to settle the bill sooner or later, and, unfortunately, were able to use Mr. CASSANAVE as an unwilling tool in driving it.

NOTHING seems to bring distress to the sensibilities of the Philadelphia Times so keenly as to learn that the Republican State Associations at Washington are rapidly coming to life and activity as political factors. The prospect now is that it is to have a pretty large harvesting of discomfort, for the resurrection tramp has sounded, and they are coming forth to newness of life with most gratifying alacrity.

THE old woman who watched the fight between her husband and the bear, and didn't care which one whipped, so long as she preserved the integrity of her gown, had just about as much interest in that affair as the law-abiding Republicans of the North have in the bull-dozers' war down in Mississippi. From another standpoint, this war appears to be a pure case of dog eat dog; and as only the mangiest kind of many curs are engaged in it, it is to be hoped the devouring process will be continued until both sides are exterminated.

THE Opposition will fail to make any overshadowing and overwhelming amount of political capital out of the CASSANAVE exposure. Traced to its origin, this is another case wherein Republicans have suffered persecution and have been financially mulcted by the Democratic courts in

the Southern States. And, we add, the contributions made to pay the extortionate fee of Messrs. CULLUM and CASTILLANE were not of a character of which any man need be ashamed. The only trouble about the matter is that it was bunglingly managed. "Machine politicians," as they are derisively called, would have settled it without exposure, honorably, legitimately and satisfactorily.

THE NATIONAL REPUBLICAN is not a GRANT organ any more than the New York Herald is an anti-GRANT journal. This fact the Herald knows but complacently ignores for the purpose of providing a text for a recent editorial in which the REPUBLICAN is alluded to as a disbeliever in the refusal of General GRANT to be renominated. The truth is, we have never entertained any other belief than that General GRANT is not an office-seeker, and that the hifalutina nonsense of the Herald about Caesarism would one day be exposed as sheer sensation. But we do believe that the people, the Herald and General GRANT together to the contrary notwithstanding, will settle the Third-Term question to suit themselves.

THE Eleventh Amendment to the Constitution of the United States must go. It prohibits the Judicial branch of the General Government from taking jurisdiction of any suit brought by a citizen of one State against another State. It reads as follows: "The Judicial power of the United States shall not be construed to extend to any suit in law or equity, commenced or prosecuted against one of the United States by Citizens of another State, or by Citizens or Subjects of any Foreign State."

The repeal of this amendment would re-constitute the Judiciary in the full powers of jurisdiction therein prohibited, and enable the Northern creditors of the repudiating Southern States to sue the Governments thereof for the recovery of the full amount of the worthless bonds they now hold. There are millions in this scheme.

THE Savannah Recorder is now luxuriating in the belief that "the Republican party has but few more years to live," and that it and the leaders of the "party" will be assigned to a political "grave," from which there will be no "resurrection." Most happy delusion, no doubt—but so long as the doctrine of State sovereignty confronts the supremacy of the National power—so long as the rights of freedom, of opinion and citizenship are hunted down by bull-dozers with deadly weapons in their hands—so long as the sacred union is menaced with the principles of secession—so long as there are unrepentant rebels to insult the Government and the Union sentiment of the country—so long there will be a Republican party with fearless and determined leaders to contend for the National integrity.

THE Democrats have a better way of defraying necessary party expenses and paying party debts than the Republicans, for they do it without permitting the public to know anything about it. If their plan had been successfully pursued, or if the party managers here in Washington had been possessed of the least bit of generosity or discretion, the recent CASSANAVE slander would never have come to light. That the judgment debt against that gentleman's property in New Orleans was a party debt, incurred in the defense of the party, its duly elected officials and its principles, and because of the persecution of its official representatives, no one will deny; consequently its payment was an honorable obligation. But, as we have said, it should have been paid promptly, without a growl or a grumble, and it would have been as wise a month ago as they are now.

THE YAZOO MURDER. If we are to believe the Mississippi bull-dozers and their sympathizers, now that he has been quietly put out of the way by a Mississippi persuader, Captain DIXON was a very, very bad man, and was really the embodiment of all the bull-dozing oppressions, assassinations and abominations that have occurred in Mississippi during a long reign of terror. If we are to believe this lame attempt to justify a bloody-handed crime, there is but one bull-dozing leader to take the tale, and that is BARKSDALE, who was brave and noble enough to publicly slaughter the Tycoon of murder and assassination on the dark and bloody ground of Mississippi. But after all, why was DIXON spared so long to carry terror everywhere in that high-toned State of law and order? If he was known by his neighbors and acquaintances to be the vile wretch he is now represented to be by Judge HARRIS and General N. HARRIS, "two of the most influential citizens of that State," why was he tolerated in law until he assumed the right to break away from the Democratic party and act independently in seeking public position, and then to be shot down like a dog? Was he any worse after he asserted the right of an American citizen to think and act for himself in the discharge of his political duties? All the outrages he is charged with were committed before he took the field as an independent candidate for the sheriff's office. He had killed no one since that step had been taken. He had simply offered himself for the suffrages of his fellow-citizens, and had sought the votes of whites and blacks alike. True, it is now alleged that he was stirring up the worst passions of the colored race against the whites, but that assertion is not backed by any proof of its truth. It is simply an after-thought, that has been seized upon to justify a horrid crime, but will fall to convince any one that he should have been assassinated by BARKSDALE. We have no defense to offer for the numerous offenses charged against DIXON. He may be as guilty as they would now make him appear. And if so, should have had him punished by the law long ago instead of reserving him for such a sacrifice as this. No doubt he was guilty, and he escaped punishment until now for the reason that they were "all tarred with the same stick," and were joined in hand and heart in the bloody work they had in hand, and so long as their murderous practices were aimed at Republicans especially he was as good as any of them, and the bad in him was not discovered until he broke away from their murderous camp and sought preferment on his own hook. Then they discovered that he was bad and unfit to live, and not until then, for up to that time he had answered their

severous purposes too well to have his usefulness destroyed, either by the hand of an offended law, or through the agency of the avenging revolver or shot-gun.

The most sneaking and cowardly feature of this affair comes to light now through those who attempt to justify this murder on account of offenses which attach in a greater or less degree to the characters and habits of every Democrat in the State of Mississippi. There is not, in truth, a man of that party in that State whose hands are not either directly or indirectly soiled with the blood of murder. Heretofore, the murdered men have been Republicans. Now they have commenced among themselves, and no man at the North will raise his hand to avert a war of extermination, if they will confine their outrages and murders within their own lines. Let the bloody work go on until every bull-dozer, every intimidator, every sustainer of the shot-gun policy and every murderer in that State has bitten the dust by the hand of his fellow assassin. Then a new population, who would respect human right and life, would take their places, and Mississippi would begin to take rank with the more civilized, law-abiding and order-loving States of this Union. It would be a hopeful day for that State when the funeral of the last bull-dozer had been attended and the earth had embraced his ignoble dust. Such an event would open to that fertile and intrinsically noble State a new era, which will lead on to a general development of its material resources and elevate its social character above the grade of crime and outrage.

The people of the North—those upon whom the Nation must rely for the perpetuity of its institutions and its honor—now have a fair opportunity of understanding the real character of the people of Mississippi who act under the Yazoo plan, and how little can be hoped of them in advancing the interests, preserving the peace and conserving human right in this country so long as its principal business is to take life and enrich the soil with human blood. This is the Democratic plan for managing a Republic, and so fast and so far as that party gains power in the future, will the spirit of Mississippi pervade the whole Nation. The only way to prevent the spread of these dogmas and diabolical practices is to crush the Democratic party out of power and securely quarantine the Government against the pestiferous approach of its adherents from all quarters. With such elements incorporated in the Government there never can be unity, peace, prosperity and universal happiness. The only hope is to keep them away from the seat of power and treat them as physical pests which are treated, with circumscribing and healing incisions.

AT LAST.

The dispatches yesterday morning from Memphis at last show systematic and faithful efforts directed against the epidemic. The local health authorities, in conjunction with the militia, acting as a police force, are working night and day the good work of local sanitation. While the National Board of Health are perspiring over the question of grasping Northern quarantines and their inspectors at "ten dollars a day and expenses" are manning the corners of the earth for cases of monstrosity to report in the Government Medical and Surgical Journal, the people of Memphis—the physicians, the military, the newspapers—are all alive to their work. We read that every house where cases of yellow fever have occurred are promptly surrounded, and intercourse between them and the other portions of the city prevented; that the sewers, sinks and cesspools are being cleaned and disinfected, and the street gutters are being anxiously looked after. Active work of this kind will soon have its effect, and had such measures been adopted sooner we should have heard less about the "circulars regarding disinfection" and "rules and regulations," and "ad nauseam" from the great central humbug. The old adage that Heaven helps those who help themselves is here exemplified, and our friends in the South will find that, as they do the work themselves, they do not need a board of eleven men, with a score of inspectors, to aid them in discharging the money. Any clerk in the Treasury could have passed on the Southern requisitions without all this circulo-circulation and endless red-tape.

POSTMASTERSHIPS IN VIRGINIA. For some reason it is becoming a little fashionable with the appointing power of the Post Office Department to put in and keep Democrats in office in Virginia, and, perhaps, such a practice is not peculiar to that branch of the public service. We now learn, with some surprise, that Mr. BUSTOW, the Republican postmaster at Tappahannock, has been removed at the instance of a leading Democrat, and Mr. JOHN ROWLEY, a very stalwart Democrat, has been appointed in his stead, much to the surprise of the Republicans of that section, as no good reason is assigned for the change.

Then, again, there seems to be considerable dissatisfaction among the Republicans of the city of Fredericksburg over the condition of affairs connected with their post-office. Mr. PUTCHARD is the present postmaster. He is represented as a Democratic sympathizer, if not an outright Democrat at heart. At least they represent his office as a sort of Democratic headquarters, which is distasteful to the public sentiment of that locality. For this and other reasons the Republicans almost unanimously ask for his removal and the appointment of Mr. KNIGHT in his place. Charges against the official conduct of Mr. PUTCHARD have been preferred by the Rev. W. WALDEN, the pastor of the First Baptist Church at Fredericksburg, Mr. THOMAS G. COLEMAN and Miss BETTIE COLEMAN—in effect that mail matter has been improperly detained, that letters have been improperly opened and that he has been guilty of unbecomingly and dishonorable conduct toward those having business relations with his office. Mr. TIDWELL, we are informed, investigated the charges that had been preferred, and made a report fully sustaining them, and yet he was permitted to continue in place. The people of Fredericksburg then again pressed the removal of Mr. PUTCHARD, and the Post Office Department sent Mr. SMALL to investigate. He did so by taking the testimony of two Democrats of very questionable records, citing no Republicans as being testimony in the case, and then, of course, made a favorable report, as was no doubt the purpose of his detail for the performance of the service. At all events, as no proper

investigation of the case was made, this is not an unjust or improbable inference. Mr. PUTCHARD continues to hold the position, and the people of Fredericksburg, or the Republican portion, are still unhappy over the state of affairs, and will persist in pressing the appointing power for a change. If Mr. PUTCHARD is a Democrat, and is guilty of the charges preferred, there will seem to be no justification for his retention in place, and the appointing power can scarcely afford to continue matters in their present shape. There may be honest and capable Republicans enough in Virginia to fill the offices under a Republican Administration, and if so, there seems to be no excuse for keeping Democrats in Federal positions in that State.

History Repeating Itself.

To the Editor of the National Republican: Sir: The Democratic inquiries into the organel system of Rhode Island and her present policy of repudiation of ante-bellum Southern State indebtedness, because it holdsers are Northern men, induce me to send you the following from an account of the great speech of Sergeant S. Prentiss, of Mississippi, at Natchez in 1844. Referring to the Democratic party, he said: "It abhorred all restraints—constitutional, legal and moral—which stood in the way of its own selfish and wicked schemes. At war with the first principles of our American republic, it sought to overthrow the experiment of popular self-government must inevitably fail. How long could our Republican institutions survive the establishment throughout the Union of a system of debt and rebellion? And was there no ground for alarm when such bodies as the great Democratic convention (1874) lately assembled at Nashville invited the rebel Dorr as a distinguished guest?"

A residence in any part of the South will convince any person loyal to the perpetuation of the American nation that the Democrats of that section are not only traitors to the Union, and they but await the opportunity for its overthrow.

OUR PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

A Few Pertinent Suggestions and Criticisms. To the Editor of the National Republican: I have, especially after your well-timed editorial of yesterday concerning action in lieu of words, to apologize for not having written a good nature and space in your valuable journal to say a word or two about the management of our public schools. The Commissioners at the onset committed a grave blunder in delegating their joint authority over so important a matter as the public schools to one of their number before the machinery was put in good working order. Had that been done, the false etiquette of two Commissioners sinking their judgment out of deference to the one, simply because he would have been assigned the supervisory duties had been avoided. I think it unfair to charge all the blunders of the school mismanagement upon Mr. Dent, for no man what agreement the Commissioners may enter into the public must, and will, hold them jointly responsible. I have, to suit the most exacting, been long enough in Washington to be classified an old client of I pay taxes, including water tax; voted, when here we had a plague, and nowhere else; children born and buried here; in fact, enjoyed all the blessings of the United States, and I am a citizen. I think, out of deference to a small percentage of older citizens, rise and explain why I meddle with their affairs. The blunder of the school board was not in delegating power to one man, but in delegating it to a man who had a man of and from the people been selected to fill so responsible a position; but, unfortunately for the people, a Southern aristocrat, who never in his life attended a public school, and whose sympathies are not in common with them, was by his associates given absolute control over them. I would not insist that the school board be composed of one man, but I would insist that this little school, together with its kindred sister schools, be thrown to brother Dent in order to satisfy his ambition and prevent any like attempt in the future. The school board, with the heavier titles of the Board—S. S. Dent, and such like; but it kinder looks that way, and the poor old gentlemen—how he takes to it! The attitude of the Supreme Court of the United States is not more worthy in appearance than this dear, retired aristocrat, when examining the bills and other matters relating to the schools, for then he assumes a judicial look that is decidedly refreshing.

Blunder number two consisted in completely ignoring the wishes of the people in retiring such eminent educators as General William H. Browne, graduate of West Point, and the Rev. A. C. Crain, graduate of Yale College; General C. H. Hovey, principal of the State Normal Academy, Ill.; B. F. Davis, former superintendent county schools, and Colonel Dyer, after forcing out of self-respect, such men as C. B. Smith, R. B. Dietrich, Madison Davis, and William J. Rhodes to resign.

Blunder number three was the grand flourish made about the non-partisan (political) complexion of the board. It is very strange that a government which is so much worried by the school board, when a vacancy occurs either in the school board or elsewhere, find only Democrats qualified to fill said vacancy. The displacement of eleven Republicans by substituting the same number of pronounced Democrats—many of them fine fellows—is only equalled by the admirable working of the admirable system of civil service, which turns off the loyal soldier and the honest man, and puts in the scoundrel and the traitor.

Blunder number four was the appointment of Mr. PUTCHARD as postmaster of Fredericksburg over the condition of affairs connected with their post-office. Mr. PUTCHARD is the present postmaster. He is represented as a Democratic sympathizer, if not an outright Democrat at heart. At least they represent his office as a sort of Democratic headquarters, which is distasteful to the public sentiment of that locality. For this and other reasons the Republicans almost unanimously ask for his removal and the appointment of Mr. KNIGHT in his place. Charges against the official conduct of Mr. PUTCHARD have been preferred by the Rev. W. WALDEN, the pastor of the First Baptist Church at Fredericksburg, Mr. THOMAS G. COLEMAN and Miss BETTIE COLEMAN—in effect that mail matter has been improperly detained, that letters have been improperly opened and that he has been guilty of unbecomingly and dishonorable conduct toward those having business relations with his office. Mr. TIDWELL, we are informed, investigated the charges that had been preferred, and made a report fully sustaining them, and yet he was permitted to continue in place. The people of Fredericksburg then again pressed the removal of Mr. PUTCHARD, and the Post Office Department sent Mr. SMALL to investigate. He did so by taking the testimony of two Democrats of very questionable records, citing no Republicans as being testimony in the case, and then, of course, made a favorable report, as was no doubt the purpose of his detail for the performance of the service. At all events, as no proper

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